



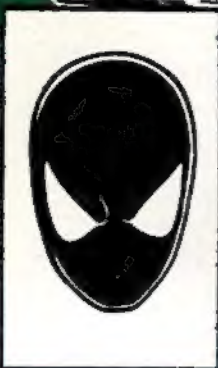
# DAREDEVIL

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

75¢ US  
95¢ CAN  
250  
JAN  
UK 40p

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

CAN EVEN  
D.D. HALT THE  
RAMPAGE OF  
**BULLET?**



JRJR-AW



"THERE IS **ENERGY** IN THE NUCLEUS OF AN **ATOM**. NATURE'S 'STRONG FORCE' IS THE **GLUE** THAT HOLDS THAT NUCLEUS TOGETHER, AND KEEPS THE ENERGY **WITHIN**. NATURE INTENDED IT TO **STAY** THAT WAY.

"MAN CAME ALONG AND **SPLIT** THE NUCLEUS, AND **UNLEASHED** THE ENERGY LATENT IN MASS--**NUCLEAR POWER**.

"ON AUGUST 6TH, 1945, PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN GLEEFULLY ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD **CAPTURED** THE BASIC ENERGY OF THE UNIVERSE, **HARNESSED** THAT SAME POWER THAT EXPLODES IN THE SUN...

"...FORMED IT INTO A **WEAPON**, AND **DROPPED** IT ON TINY, FRAIL, **FLESH** AND **BLOOD** CREATURES-- THE PEOPLE OF **HIROSHIMA**.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

# BOOM

ANN  
NOCENTI  
WRITER

JOHN  
ROMITA  
PENCILER

AL  
WILLIAMSON  
INKER

JOE  
ROSEN  
LETTERER

MAX  
SCHEELE  
COLORIST

RALPH  
MACCHIO  
EDITOR

TOM  
DEFALCO  
CHIEF

"SINCE THE CONTEMPLATION OF SUCH AN EVENT MAKES ONE **SYCK**, NO ONE CHOOSES TO THINK ABOUT IT.

"THIS MASS DENIAL IS, IN ITSELF, A SICKNESS.

"UNFORTUNATELY, NOW THAT NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY EXISTS, IT CANNOT BE BE 'UN-MADE' -- **IT WILL NEVER GO AWAY**.

"NUCLEAR POWER **SEEMS** TO TAKE THE FORM OF POWER PLANTS AND WEAPONS, BUT IT IS REALLY SO MUCH MORE.

"IT WAS MADE BY MAN, BUT WILL **END** MAN. END HISTORY, END LIFE. THE CONTINUED PRODUCTION AND USE OF THIS ENERGY CAN HAVE ONLY ONE OUTCOME-- **MASS, GLOBAL, PLANETARY SUICIDE**."



"THE **EXPLODING** OF A NUCLEAR BOMB RESULTS IN: FISSION, FUSION, SHOCK WAVE, ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE, BLINDING LIGHT, EXPANDING FIREBALL..."

"...THERMAL PULSE, VAPORIZATION, DISINTEGRATION, INCINERATION, MUSHROOM CLOUD, RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT, RADIOACTIVE DISEASE, MASS FIRES, STRATOSPHERIC FALL-OUT, PROTRACTED AFTERBURST, DESTRUCTION OF THE OZONE...ET CETERA."



"SURVIVORS, IF ANY, WOULD FIND THAT IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD AS THEY KNEW IT."

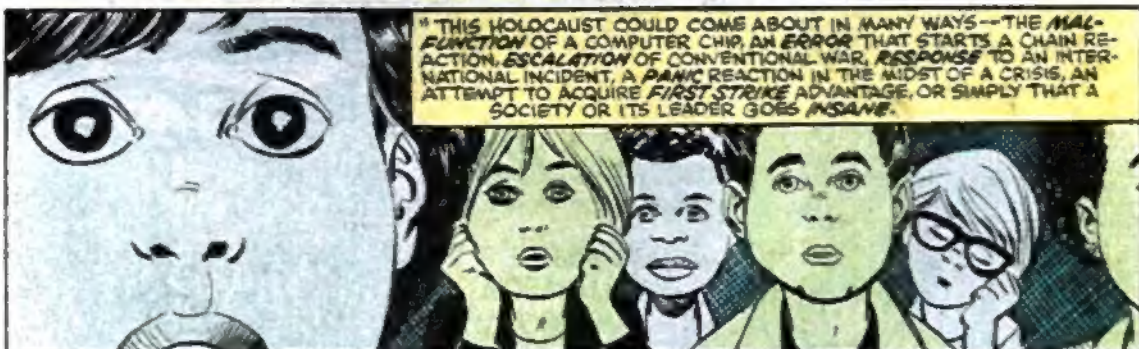
"A LIMITED WEAPONS EXCHANGE, OR WHAT WE CALL NUCLEAR **HOLOCAUST**, WOULD INCREASE THIS EFFECT TO COVER NOT JUST A COUNTRY, BUT THE ENTIRE **GLOBE**."



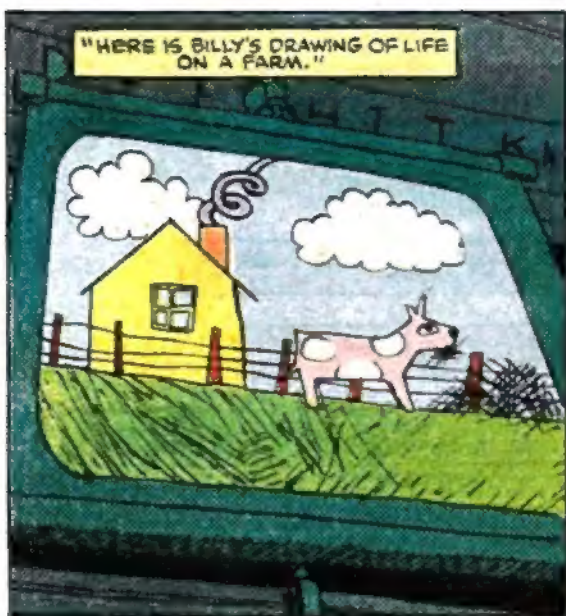
"THE RESULT WOULD BE 'MUTUAL ASSURED DESTRUCTION' OR-- PLANE-TARY TERMINATION, THE EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, THE **DEATH OF THE PLANET**."



"THIS HOLOCAUST COULD COME ABOUT IN MANY WAYS--THE **MAL-FUNCTION** OF A COMPUTER CHIP, AN **ERROR** THAT STARTS A CHAIN REACTION, **ESCALATION** OF CONVENTIONAL WAR, **RESPONSE** TO AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT, A **PANIC** REACTION IN THE MIDST OF A CRISIS, AN ATTEMPT TO ACQUIRE **FIRST STRIKE** ADVANTAGE, OR SIMPLY THAT A SOCIETY OR ITS LEADER GOES **INSANE**."



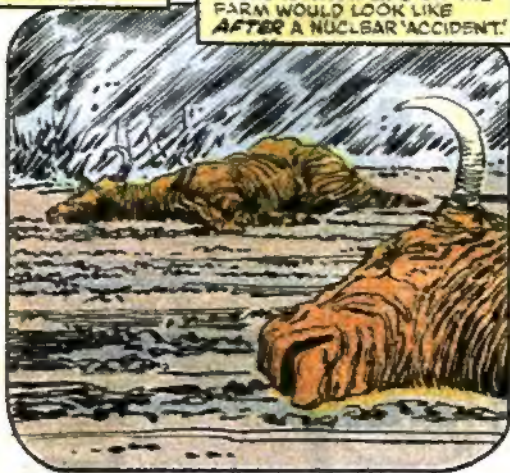
"HERE IS BILLY'S DRAWING OF LIFE ON A FARM."





"PAY ATTENTION, CLASS!"

"HERE IS WHAT LIFE ON THE FARM WOULD LOOK LIKE AFTER A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT."

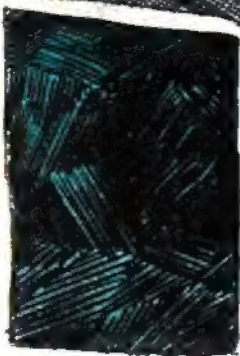


"YOU ALL DID DRAWINGS OF WHAT YOU IMAGINED THE WORLD WOULD LOOK LIKE, POST-HOLOCAUST."

"THEY ARE ALL QUITE ACCURATE, ESPECIALLY LANCE'S DRAWING. HIS IS THE BLACK ONE."



"I REMEMBER... HIROSHIMA. THE CITY WAS DESTROYED INSTANTLY. ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY THOUSAND PEOPLE DIED. I SURVIVED. AT FIRST, ALL I KNEW WAS THAT THE WORLD HAD GONE BLACK."



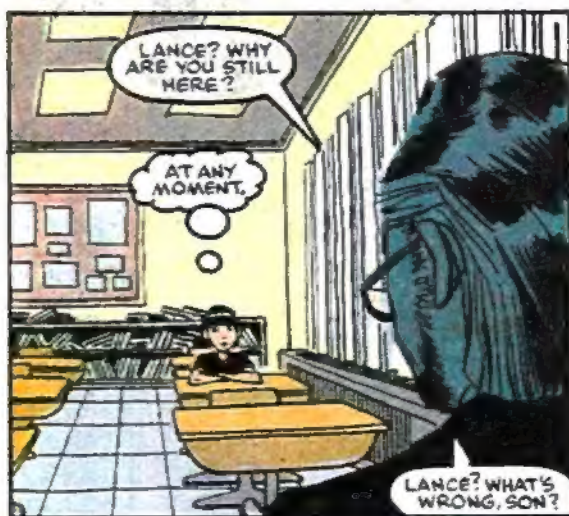
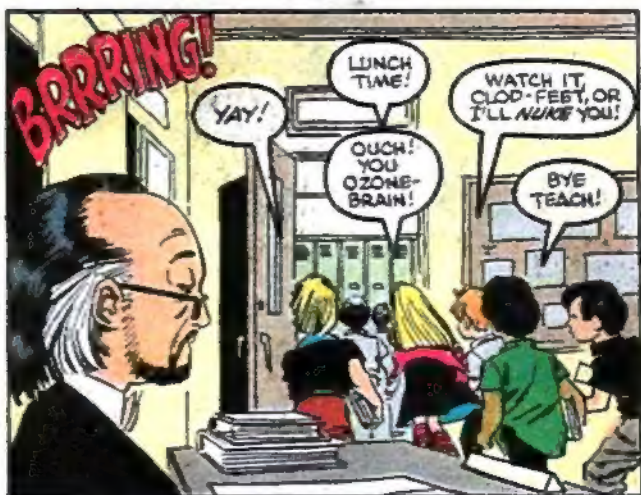
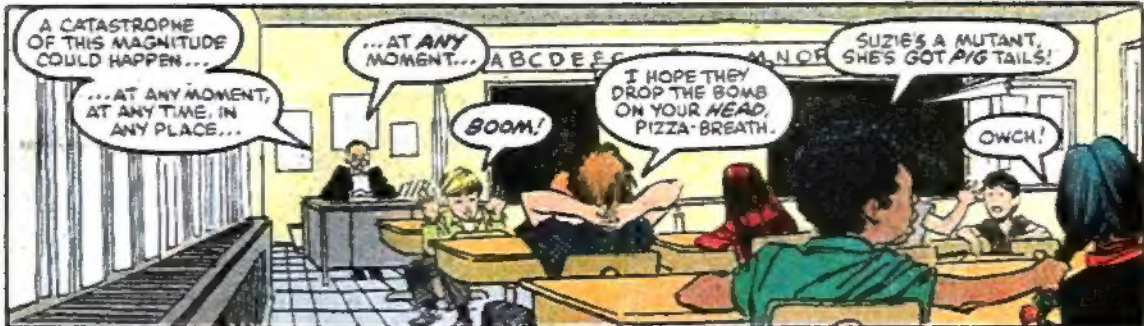
"A BLACK RAIN FELL ALL DAY. FINALLY THE PITCH BLACKNESS GAVE WAY. WHAT REPLACED IT WAS OPEN, VACANT LAND, AN EMPTINESS THAT HAD BEEN A CITY."

"I WAS ASTONISHED BY THE ABSENCE OF THE KNOWN WORLD."

"I HEARD CRIES AND MOANS. THE FIRST PERSON I SAW WAS A NAKED OLD MAN. IN SHOCK, WHO CRIED 'STUPID AMERICA!' OVER AND OVER."















HILDA?

YEH BOSS?

WOULD YOU GET THE STATS ON THIS CASE FROM THESE LADIES, AND ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS FOR TESTIMONIES FROM THEIR CHILDREN...

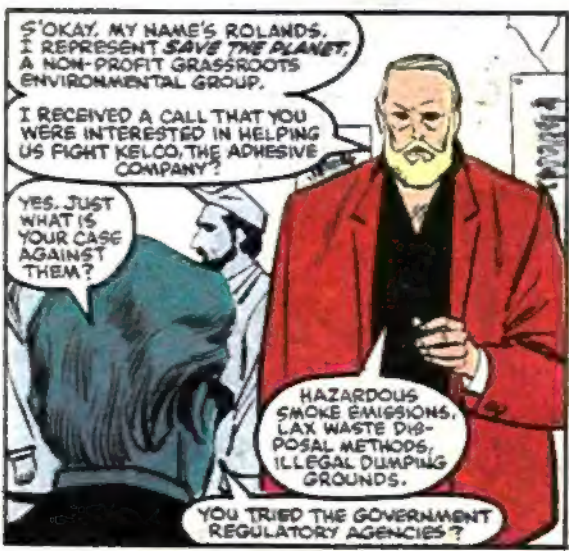


I WON'T HAVE MY BABY TRAUMATIZED ALL OVER AGAIN, NO ONE'S TALKIN' TO MY BILLY!

LET'S JUST SIT DOWN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COFFEE?

OKAY...

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, SIR.



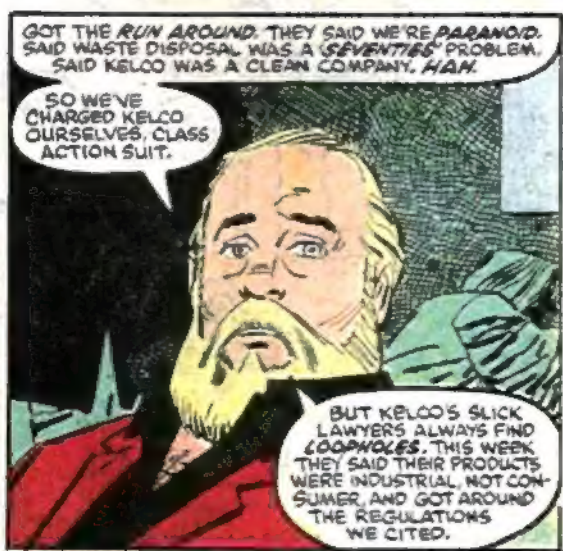
S'OKAY, MY NAME'S ROLANDS. I REPRESENT *SAVE THE PLANET*, A NON-PROFIT GRASSROOTS ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP.

I RECEIVED A CALL THAT YOU WERE INTERESTED IN HELPING US FIGHT KELCO, THE ADHESIVE COMPANY?

YES, JUST WHAT IS YOUR CASE AGAINST THEM?

HAZARDOUS SMOKE EMISSIONS, LAX WASTE DISPOSAL METHODS, ILLEGAL DUMPING GROUNDS.

YOU TRIED THE GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCIES?



GOT THE RUN AROUND. THEY SAID WE'RE PARANOID. SAID WASTE DISPOSAL WAS A 'SEVENTIES' PROBLEM. SAID KELCO WAS A CLEAN COMPANY. HAH.

SO WE'VE CHARGED KELCO OURSELVES, CLASS ACTION SUIT.

BUT KELCO'S SLICK LAWYERS ALWAYS FIND LOOPHOLES. THIS WEEK THEY SAID THEIR PRODUCTS WERE INDUSTRIAL, NOT CONSUMER, AND GOT AROUND THE REGULATIONS WE CITED.



IT'S SO *FRUSTRATING*, NOW WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH WASHINGTON. GET THE FEDERAL REGISTER RE-WORDED, TIGHTEN THE CODES. THEN WE *WAIT* FOR THE NEW WORDING OF THE DIRECTIVE TO BE ISSUED. MEANWHILE, KELCO WILL FIND ANOTHER LOOPHOLE.

BETWEEN *RED TAPE* AND *STALLS* IN THE COURTS -- IT COULD TAKE YEARS!

MEANWHILE, KELCO KEEPS *DUMPING*!

WHERE ARE ALL YOUR FILES AND PAPERWORK?

IN OUR JERSEY HEADQUARTERS.

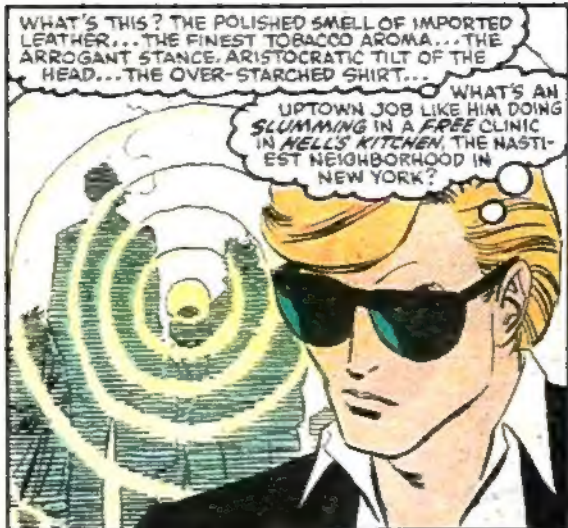


I'LL COME OUT TONIGHT, REVIEW YOUR CASE, COME UP WITH YOUR RETALIATION.

TWO CAN PLAY THEIR GAME. IF THEY WANT *LEGAL SWORD-PLAY*, THEY'LL GET IT. SO FAST AND FANCY--

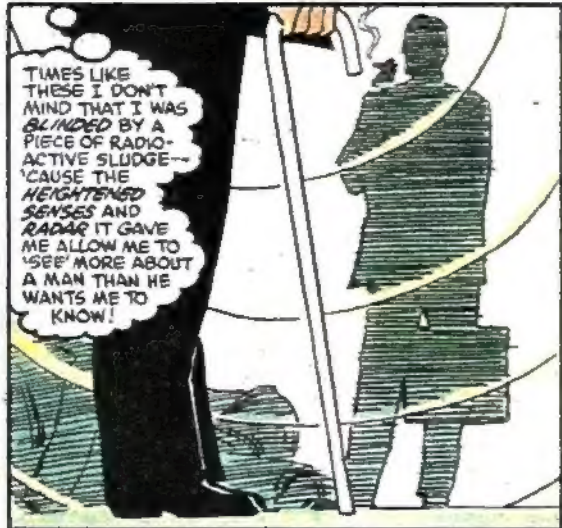
--I'LL SLICE THROUGH ALL THEIR *RED TAPE* AND DROP IT AROUND THEM IN *SHREDS*.





WHAT'S THIS? THE POLISHED SMELL OF IMPORTED LEATHER... THE FINEST TOBACCO AROMA... THE ARROGANT STANCE, ARISTOCRATIC TILT OF THE HEAD... THE OVER-STARCHED SHIRT...

WHAT'S AN UPTOWN JOB LIKE HIM DOING SLUMMING IN A FREE CLINIC IN HELL'S KITCHEN, THE NASTIEST NEIGHBORHOOD IN NEW YORK?



TIMES LIKE THESE I DON'T MIND THAT I WAS BLINDED BY A PIECE OF RADIO-ACTIVE SLUDGE-- 'CAUSE THE HEIGHTENED SENSES AND RADAR IT GAVE ME ALLOW ME TO 'SEE' MORE ABOUT A MAN THAN HE WANTS ME TO KNOW!



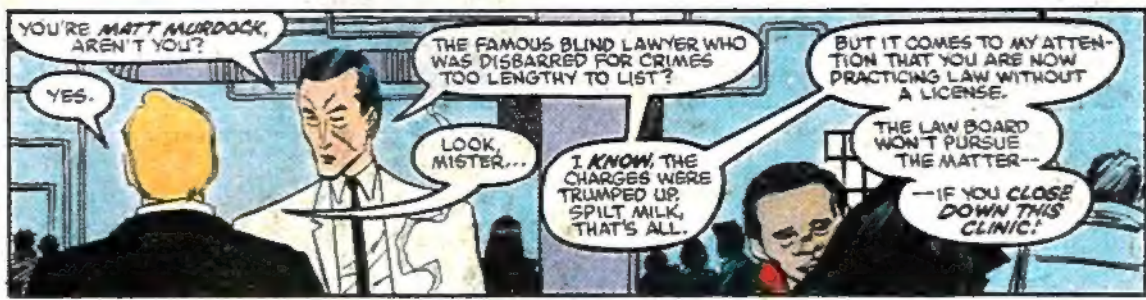
LIKE, FOR INSTANCE, I CAN HEAR THE WHIR OF HIS CONCEALED TAPE RECORDER!

WELL, I'LL JUST 'BLINDLY' BUMBLE AND STUMBLE ALONG HERE...

OOOPS! 'SCUSE ME, SIR.

CAN I HELP YOU?

I THINK NOT. I'M HERE TO HELP YOU.



YOU'RE MATT MURDOCK, AREN'T YOU?

YES.

THE FAMOUS BLIND LAWYER WHO WAS DISBARRED FOR CRIMES TOO LENGTHY TO LIST?

LOOK, MISTER...

I KNOW, THE CHARGES WERE TRUMPED UP, SPILT MILK, THAT'S ALL.

BUT IT COMES TO MY ATTENTION THAT YOU ARE NOW PRACTICING LAW WITHOUT A LICENSE.

THE LAW BOARD WON'T PURSUE THE MATTER--

--IF YOU CLOSE DOWN THIS CLINIC!



THE CLINIC STAYS OPEN.

CLOSE IT DOWN, MURDOCK--

--OR I WILL!



OFFICE OF THE  
GENERAL.

NOW, I DON'T  
WANT YOU TO  
THINK I'M ASKIN'  
YOU TO DO ANY-  
THING **ILLEGAL**.  
MY BOY, IT'S ALL  
ON THE UP AND UP.

UH...WOULD  
YOU LIKE TO  
SIT DOWN,  
MR. BULLET?

NO.

OKAY...UM...  
YOU SEE, THE  
**GOVERNMENT**  
MUST COOPERATE  
WITH THE **CORPORATE**  
REALM---POLITICS AND  
BUSINESS WORKING IN  
**TANDEN** IS WHAT  
MAKES THIS COUNTRY  
...UH...**GREAT**.

WE MUST  
CREATE THE UH...  
PROPER **ATMOS-  
PHERE** FOR FREE  
ENTERPRISE TO  
**THRIVE** IN. UNDER-  
STAND, MY BOY?

UH...YOUR INCESSANT  
**PACING** IS A BIT NERVE-  
WRACKING---COULD YOU  
JUST STAND STILL A  
MOMENT?

NO.

OKAY...OKAY, NOW ABOUT THIS EN-  
VIRONMENTAL GROUP---**SAVE THE PLANET**.  
THEY'VE BECOME A **NUISANCE** TO SEVERAL  
NEW JERSEY INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES, AND  
THEY MUST BE---**NUDD**ED A BIT.

NOW, I BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF  
NATURE JUST LIKE THE NEXT MAN, MY  
BOY, BUT THIS GRASSROOTS GROUP IS  
GOING TOO FAR---THEY THREATEN  
AMERICAN BUSINESS. THEY'RE **SUB-  
VERSIVES** ATTACKING THE  
AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE---

YOU KNOW, GENERAL---  
YOU GOT A VOICE LIKE  
A **NEEDLE SCRATCHIN'**  
THROUGH THE BEST  
SONG ON A RECORD.

SO CUT THE  
**BULL**. OKAY  
'OLD BOY?

I DON'T NEED TO BE  
**BORED** WITH YOUR MORALITY  
PLAY **JUSTIFICATIONS**. HOW YOU  
MANAGE TO **SLEEP** AT NIGHT  
IS YOUR BUSINESS.

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT,  
MR. FOUR-STAR GENERAL. I'LL DO  
ANYTHING LONG AS THE **MONEY'S**  
RIGHT.

I SLEEP LIKE  
A **BABY**. NO  
MATTER WHAT.

I  
SEE.

WELL...**SAVE**  
THE PLANET'S  
JERSEY HEAD-  
QUARTERS MIGHT  
GET **BOMBED**  
TONIGHT BY A  
**TERRORIST**.

YOU'LL BE THERE  
AS A GOVERN-  
MENT OFFICIAL---





I GET THE PICTURE.

I LET HIM BLOW UP THE JOINT, THEN I ARREST HIM.



HE'S EXPECT-  
ING ME, SO HE'LL  
CAPTURE ME EASY.  
THEN YOU LAUN-  
DER HIM THROUGH  
YOUR 'PEOPLE' AN'  
HE AVOIDS LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES AN'  
GETS OFF FREE.  
AND THE GRASS-  
ROOT SUBVERSIVE  
NATURE-LOVIN'  
WEIRDOS GO  
BACK TO KNIT-  
TING.

HIT THE NAIL HEAD-  
ON, HUH? SEE--I  
KNOW HOW YOU  
CAREER UNIFORMS  
THINK. I KNOW HOW  
YOU SLEEP AND  
HOW MUCH YOU  
SWEAT.

AN' ANOTHER  
THING--



BULLET! THEY WERE... UH... JUST  
STANDARD PRECAUTIONARY GUARDS...

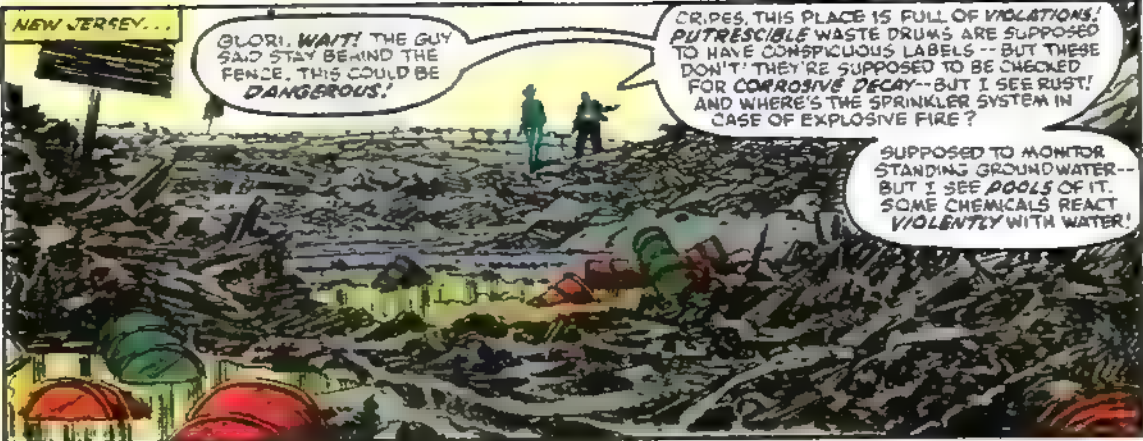
IF THEY'D STOOD OUT IN  
THE OPEN WHERE I COULD  
SEE 'EM, FINE.

BUT SEE I'M  
PARANOID--

--YOU HIDE SOME-  
THIN' AND I BEGIN  
THINKIN' YOU GOT  
SOMETHIN' TO HIDE.

LATER,  
OLD BOY.





NEW JERSEY...

GLORI, WAIT! THE GUY SAID STAY BEHIND THE FENCE. THIS COULD BE DANGEROUS!

CRIPES, THIS PLACE IS FULL OF VIOLATIONS! PUTRESCIBLE WASTE DRUMS ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE CONSPICUOUS LABELS -- BUT THESE DON'T! THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE CHECKED FOR CORROSIVE DECAY--BUT I SEE RUST! AND WHERE'S THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM IN CASE OF EXPLOSIVE FIRE?

SUPPOSED TO MONITOR STANDING GROUNDWATER-- BUT I SEE POOLS OF IT. SOME CHEMICALS REACT VIOLENTLY WITH WATER!



GEEZ, GLORI! LET'S GO BACK! THIS IS A THOUSAND DOLLAR SUIT!

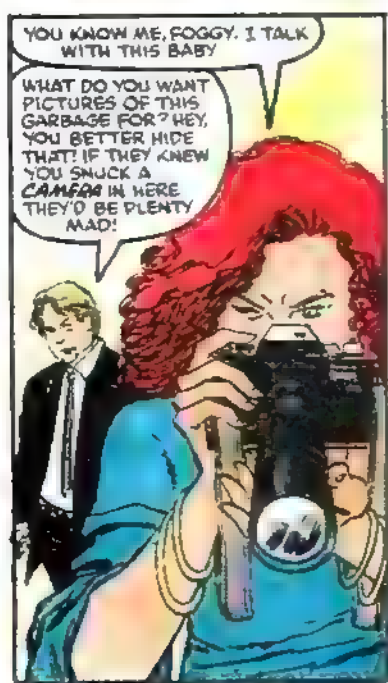
HEY, WHERE'S THE VEGETATION? SUPPOSED TO PLANT STUFF TO CONTROL EROSION. PHEW! IT STINKS! SUPPOSED TO BE MONITORS TO CHECK GASES BEING DISCHARGED INTO THE ENVIRONMENT...



THE RUN-OFF SYSTEM'S ALL CLOGGED UP... I'D HATE TO THINK OF THE HOLES IN THE LANDFILL'S LINER! NO WONDER NOTHING'S GROWING FOR MILES AROUND.

KELCO MUSTA BOUGHT OFF THE INSPECTORS. THE MANIFESTS I CHECKED ARE FULL OF RECKLESS FALSITIES.

WHY SO QUIET, GLORI?



YOU KNOW ME, FOGGY. I TALK WITH THIS BABY

WHAT DO YOU WANT PICTURES OF THIS GARBAGE FOR? HEY, YOU BETTER HIDE THAT! IF THEY KNEW YOU SNUCK A CAMERA IN HERE THEY'D BE PLENTY MAD!



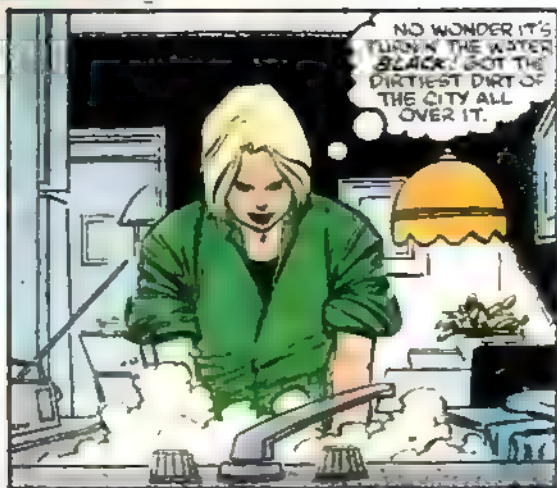
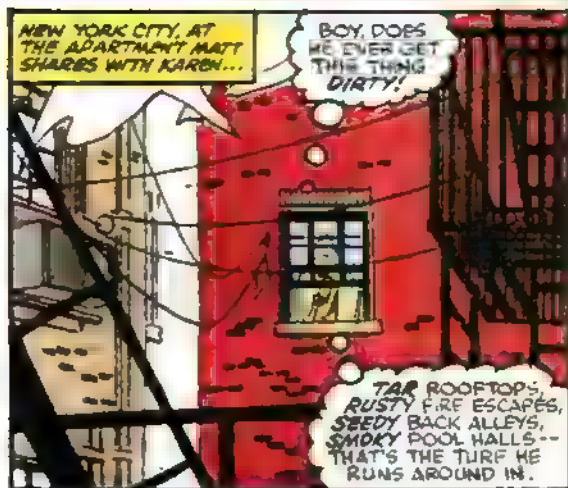
YOU KNOW THE DRUMS THAT ARE LABELED SHOW COMPANIES OTHER THAN KELCO DUMP HERE. IF THERE'S INCOMPATIBLE WASTE HERE AND THEY MIX --



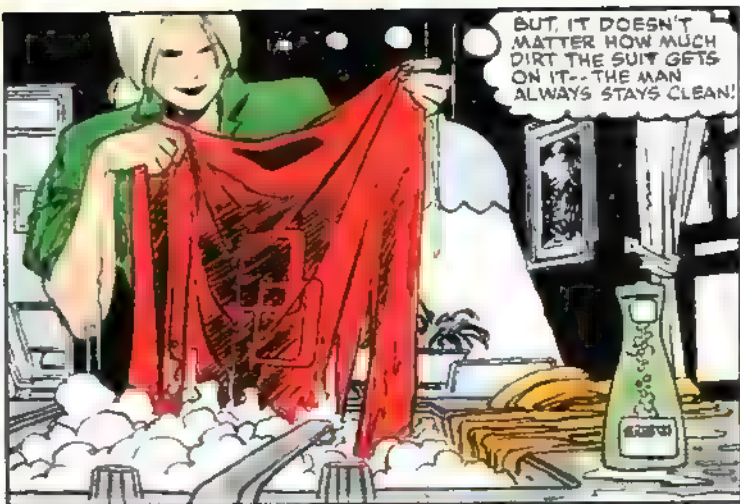
--NO TELLING WHAT COULD BE CREATED!

LET'S GO, HONEY. I FEEL KINDA SICK...









BUT, IT DOESN'T  
MATTER HOW MUCH  
DIRT THE SUIT GETS  
ON IT--THE MAN  
ALWAYS STAYS CLEAN!

CLEAN  
IN HEART  
AND SPIRIT!

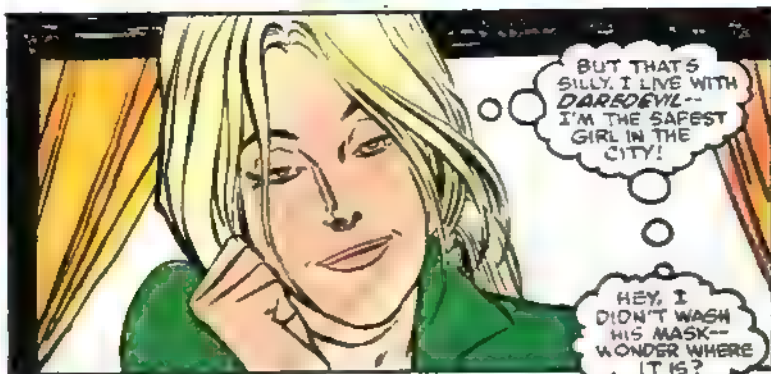


GUESS NO ONE WILL NOTICE  
IF I HANG IT OUT TO DRY.  
JUST LOOKS LIKE PAJAMAS,  
WITHOUT MATT TO FILL IT UP.



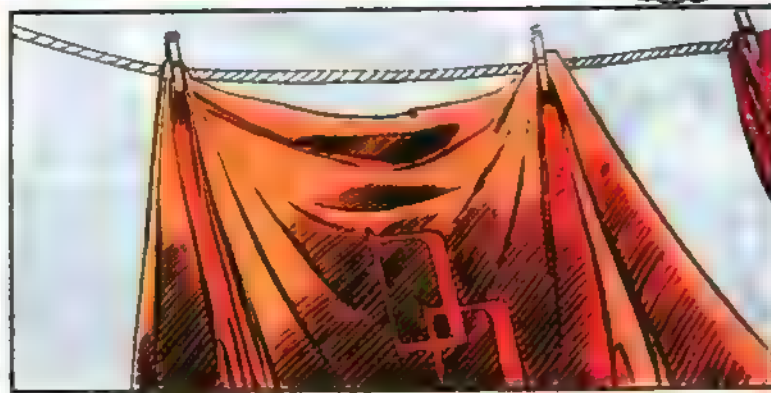
NOW THAT WE GOT THE  
CLINIC STARTED WHAT  
WITH MATT GIVING  
FREE LEGAL ADVICE  
AND ME WORKIN' THE  
DRUG HOTLINE... I  
FINALLY FEEL WORTH-  
WHILE AND HAPPY!

FUNNY, EVERY  
OTHER TIME IN MY  
LIFE I FELT THIS  
GOOD--SOMETHING  
HORRIBLE HAPPENED  
TO TAKE IT ALL  
AWAY FROM ME.



BUT THAT'S  
SILLY, I LIVE WITH  
DAREDEVIL--  
I'M THE SAFEST  
GIRL IN THE  
CITY!

HEY, I  
DIDN'T WASH  
HIS MASK--  
WONDER WHERE  
IT IS?





AND AT SAVE  
THE PLANET'S  
HEADQUARTERS...

WHAT A  
BATTLE  
THEY'VE  
FOUGHT.

A BATTLE  
OF WORDS  
AND PAPER.

KELCO DANCED  
OUT OF THE  
REGULATIONS  
WITH SIMPLE  
SEMANTICS

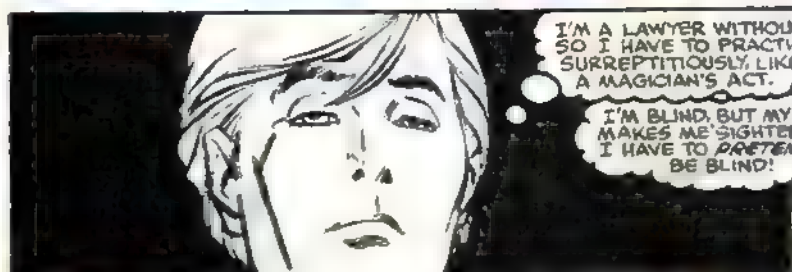
BUT I'VE FOUND  
A CASE THAT LL  
PIN THEM TO  
THE GROUND  
AGAIN.

GOTTA  
GET UP AND  
STRETCH  
MY LEGS--

--WHAT AM I DOING?! WHY AM I  
PUTTING ON THE BLIND ACT WHEN  
THERE'S NO ONE HERE TO SEE ME?



WHY DOES MY LIFE HAVE  
TO HAVE THESE PROPS!



I'M A LAWYER WITHOUT A LICENSE,  
SO I HAVE TO PRACTICE LAW  
SURREPTITIOUSLY LIKE IT'S  
A MAGICIAN'S ACT.

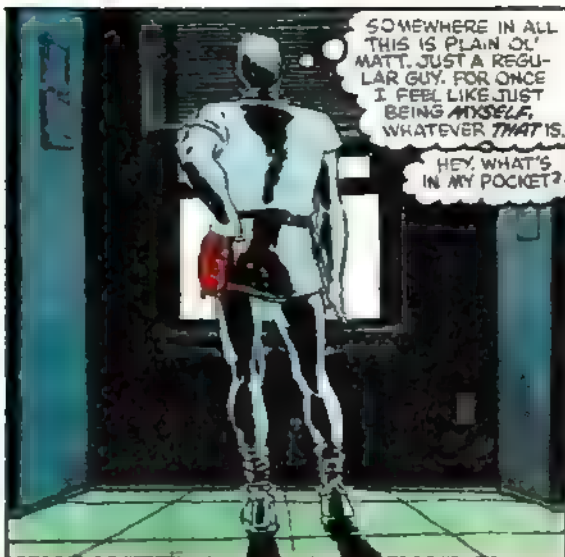
I'M BLIND, BUT MY RADAR  
MAKES ME SIGHTED--SO  
I HAVE TO PRETEND TO  
BE BLIND!



I HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE  
CLUMSY AND VULNERABLE SO  
NO ONE CONNECTS MATT MURDOCK  
WITH DAREDEVIL.

AND DAREDEVIL--THAT'S ANOTHER  
LIFE I HAVE TO "PRACTICE WITHOUT  
A LICENSE" AND WEAR A MASK TO  
HIDE MY FACE--MORE PROPS!





SOMEWHERE IN ALL THIS IS PLAIN OL' MATT. JUST A REGULAR GUY. FOR ONCE I FEEL LIKE JUST BEING MYSELF, WHATEVER *THAT* IS.

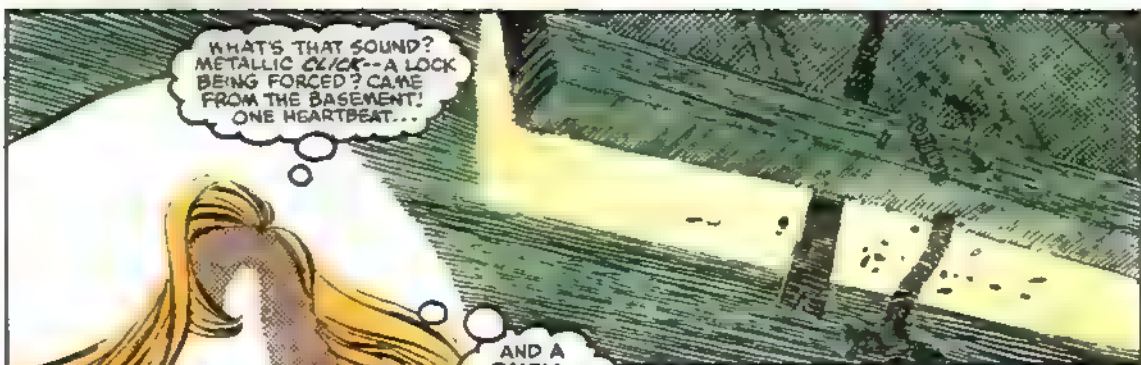
HEY, WHAT'S IN MY POCKET?



MY MASK!

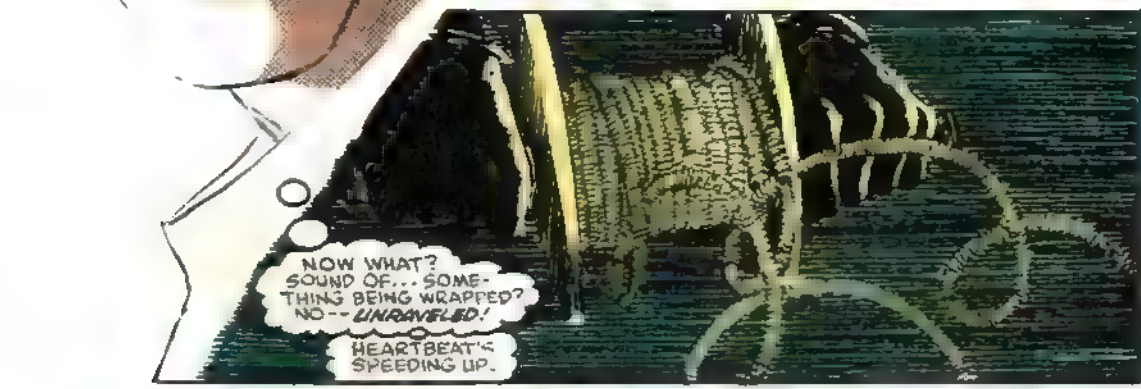
I DON'T REMEMBER STICKING IT IN MY POCKET!

HOPE NO ONE SAW IT...



WHAT'S THAT SOUND? METALLIC *CLICK*--A LOCK BEING FORCED? CAME FROM THE BASEMENT! ONE HEARTBEAT...

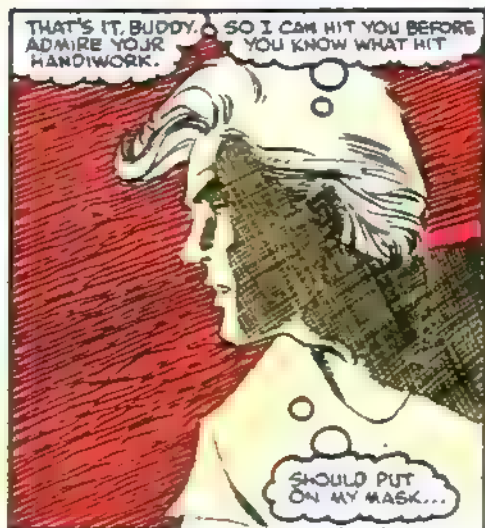
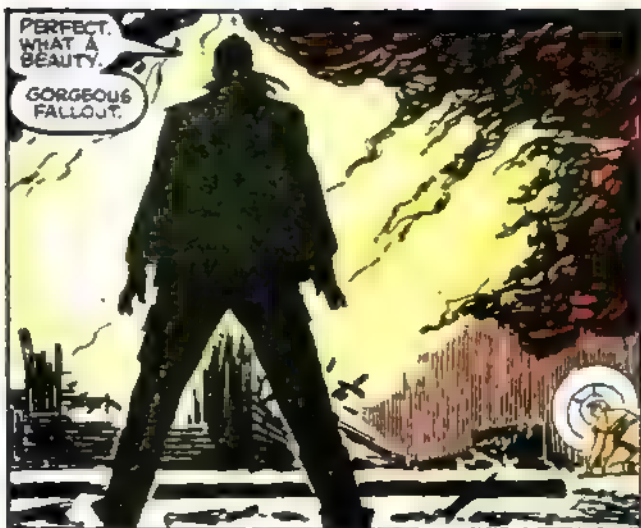
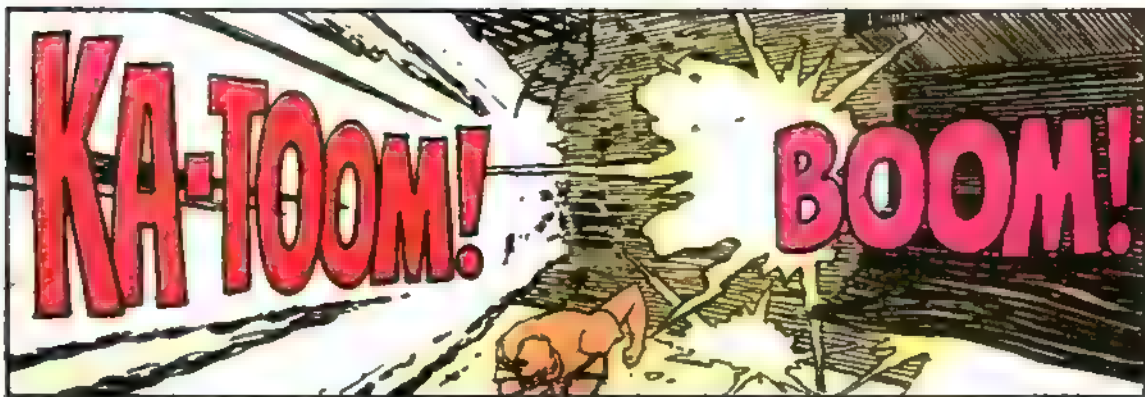
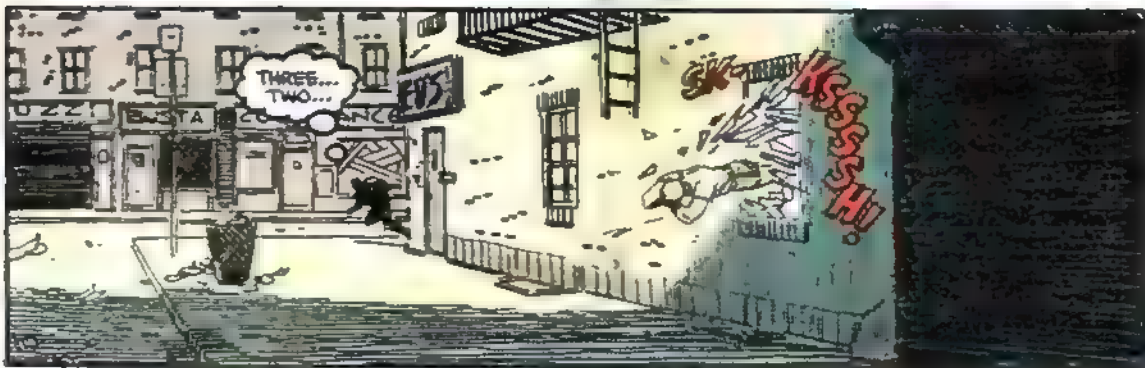
AND A *SMELL*--GLUE? NO--A PLASTIC...



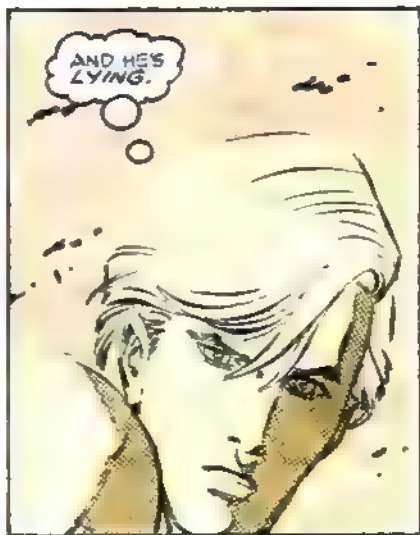
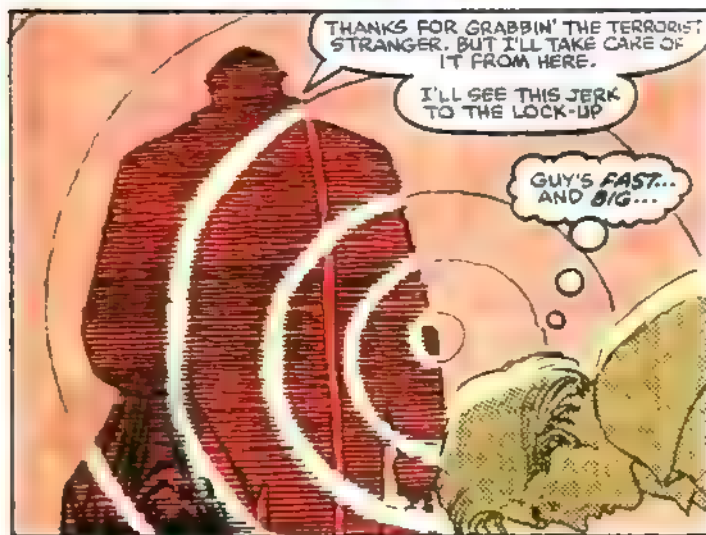
NOW WHAT? SOUND OF... SOMETHING BEING WRAPPED? NO--*UNRAVELED!*

HEARTBEAT< SPEEDING UP.

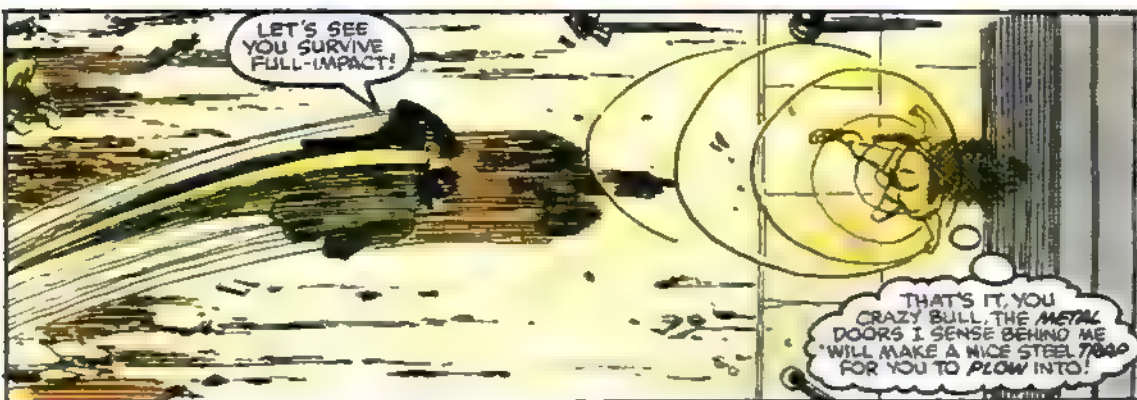
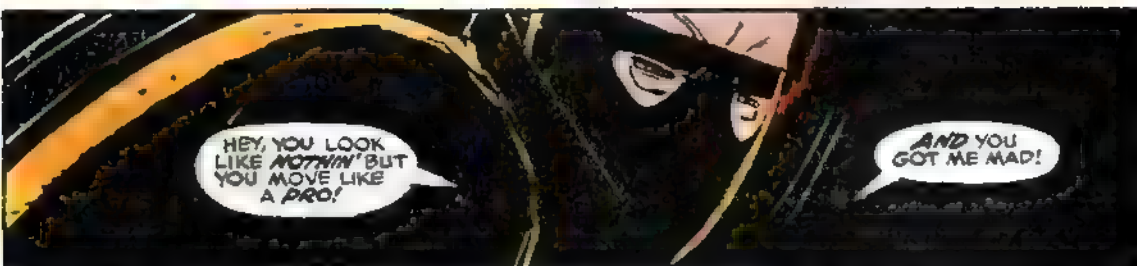
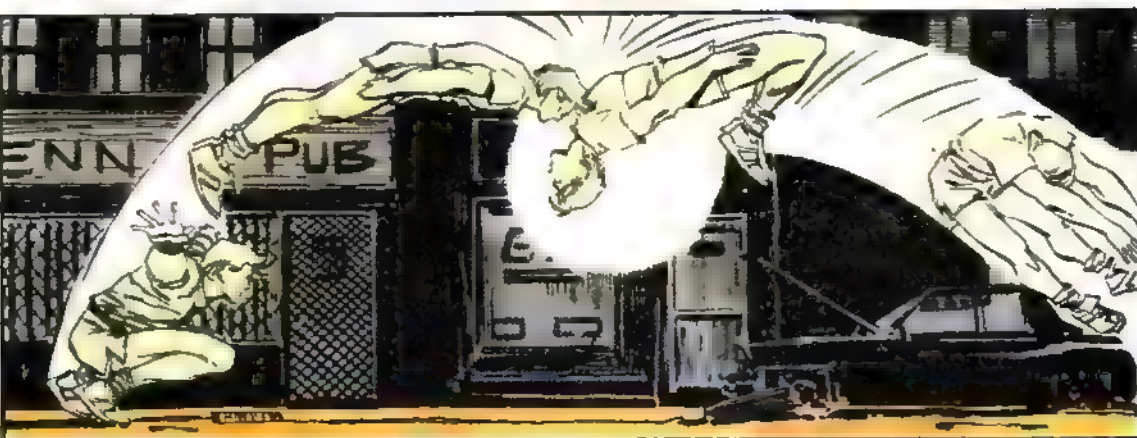




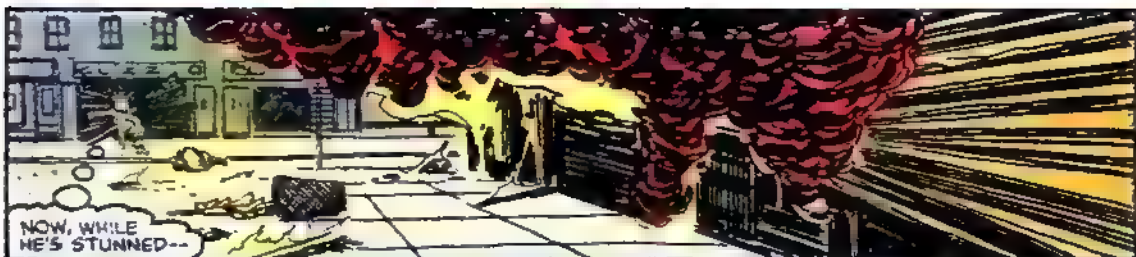
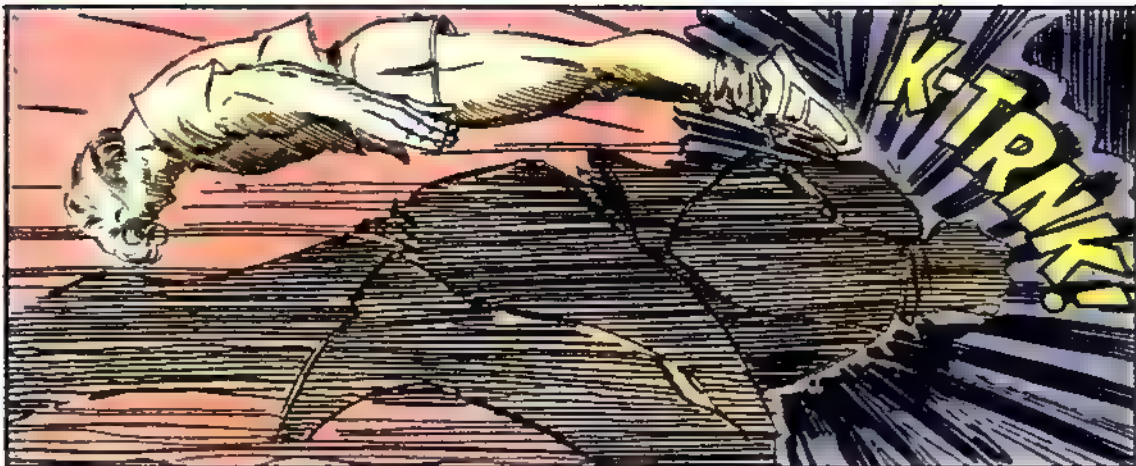
















LOOK, YOU PROVED YOUR CLOUT. I DON'T WANNA HAVE TO KILL YOU.

SO EYERALL THIS, FAL HIGHEST LEVEL GOVERNMENT CLEARANCE. AGENT BULLET HERE DOIN HIS BIT FOR HIS COUNTRY

NOW LEMME JUST DO MY JOB AND TAKE THE JERK IN

HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH! THEN WHY'D HIS HEARTBEAT SHOW HIM FOR A LIAR BEFORE?



WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

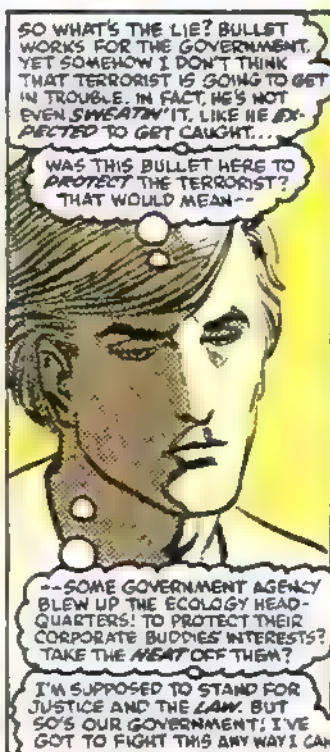
I'M THE NIGHT WATCHMAN

HUH. THE WATCHMAN, RIGHT.



GUESS WE ALL GOT OUR SECRETS. OKAY, BUT FOR THE HECK OF IT, I THINK I'LL REMEMBER YOUR FACE.

FIREMEN MUST BE ASLEEP YOU BETTER CALL 'EM

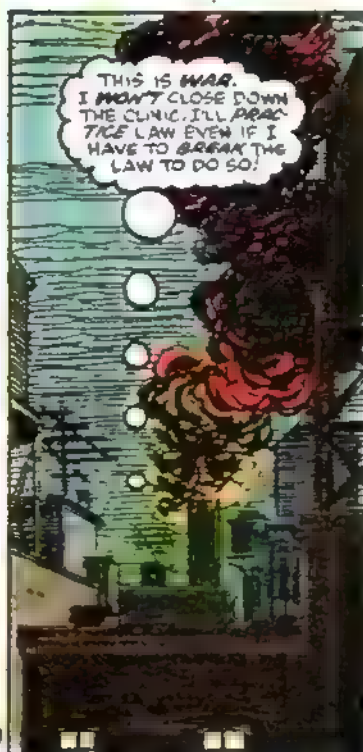


SO WHAT'S THE LIE? BULLET WORKS FOR THE GOVERNMENT, YET SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK THAT TERRORIST IS GOING TO GET IN TROUBLE. IN FACT, HE'S NOT EVEN SWEATIN' IT, LIKE HE EXPECTED TO GET CAUGHT...

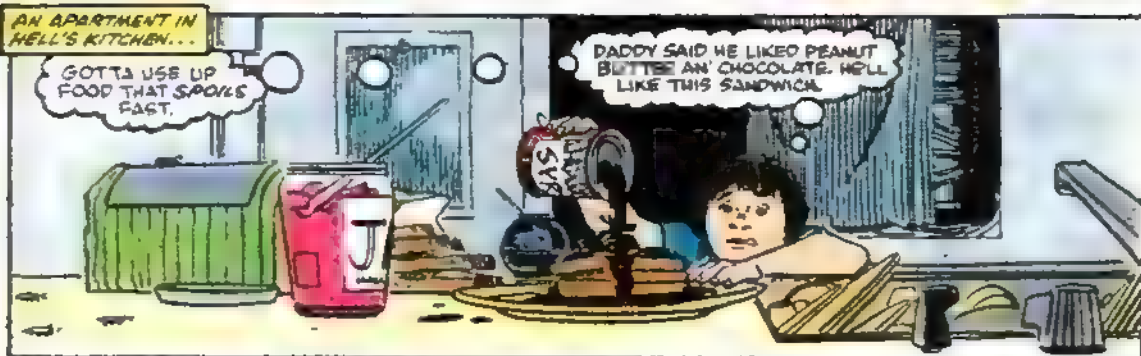
WAS THIS BULLET HERE TO PROTECT THE TERRORIST? THAT WOULD MEAN--

--SOME GOVERNMENT AGENCY BLEW UP THE ECOLOGY HEAD-QUARTERS! TO PROTECT THEIR CORPORATE BUDDIES' INTERESTS? TAKE THE HEAT OFF THEM?

I'M SUPPOSED TO STAND FOR JUSTICE AND THE LAW, BUT SO'S OUR GOVERNMENT! I'VE GOT TO FIGHT THIS ANYWAY I CAN!



THIS IS WAR. I ~~HON'T~~ CLOSE DOWN THE CLINIC. I'LL PRACTICE LAW EVEN IF I HAVE TO BREAK THE LAW TO DO SO!



AN APARTMENT IN HELL'S KITCHEN...

GOTTA USE UP FOOD THAT SPOOKS FAST.

DADDY SAID HE LIKED PEANUT BUTTER AN' CHOCOLATE. HE'LL LIKE THIS SANDWICH.





GOT ENOUGH FREEZE-DRIED AND CANNED FOOD TO LAST ME AN' DAD TILL FALLOUT'S OVER...

BUT WHAT I NEED IS A HEATING SYSTEM 'CAUSE IT HAPPENS IN WINTER...



LANCE?:

DADDY!  
UH-OH...



HEY, SPORT!  
HOW'S MY MAN?

ARE YOU  
...ARE YOU  
IN A GOOD  
MOOD?:

SURE,  
KID.

OH, BOY! I GOT THE  
NIGHT ALL PLANNED!  
HEY, WHERE'S YOUR  
BULLET COSTUME? I  
GOTTA SHOW YOU THE  
SPEAR GUN I'M WORKIN'  
ON, AN' THE NEW  
VENT SYSTEM...



UH... LANCE AREN'T YOU CARRYING  
THIS FALLOUT SHELTER STUFF TOO FAR?  
YOU GOT LOTS OF NORMAL GAMES  
TO PLAY...

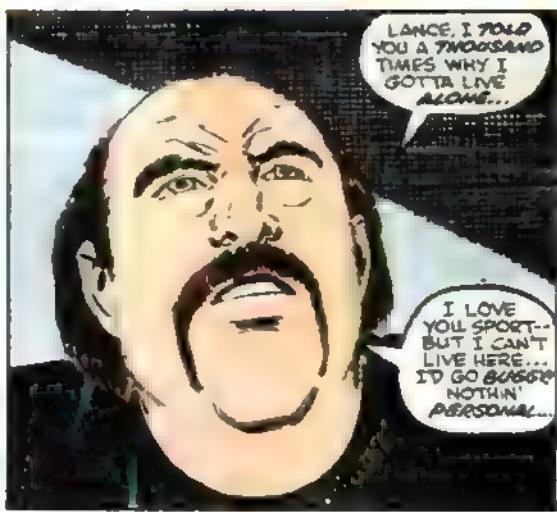
WHAT?!  
NO WAY!  
YOU AN' ME  
WE GOTTA  
SURVIVE!



SURE IS  
GOOD TO  
SEE YOU,  
DAD!

YEAH? WHAT YOU  
BEEN DOIN'? THIS  
PLACE LOOKS LIKE  
A WAR ZONE!

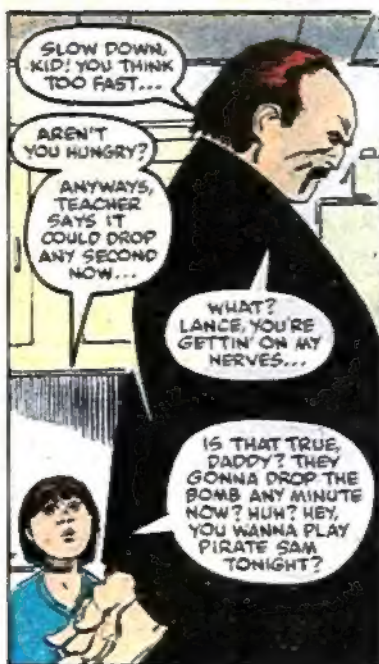
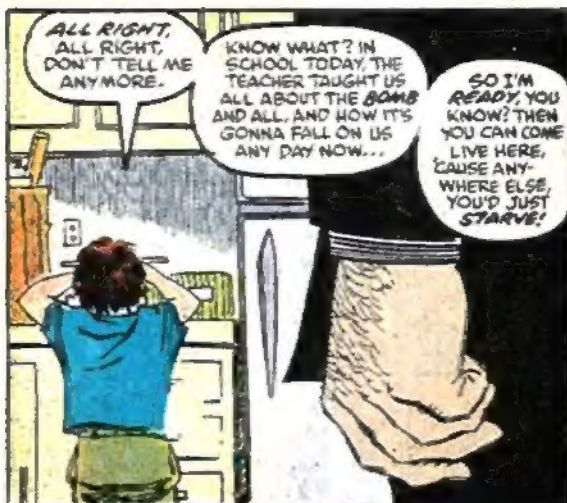
I BEEN THINKIN'—IT WOULD BE REALLY GREAT  
IF YOU MOVED IN WITH ME, DAD!



LANCE, I TOLD  
YOU A THOUSAND  
TIMES WHY I  
GOTTA LIVE  
ALONE...

I LOVE  
YOU SPORT—  
BUT I CAN'T  
LIVE HERE...  
I'D GO BUNGEE  
NOTHIN' PERSONAL...





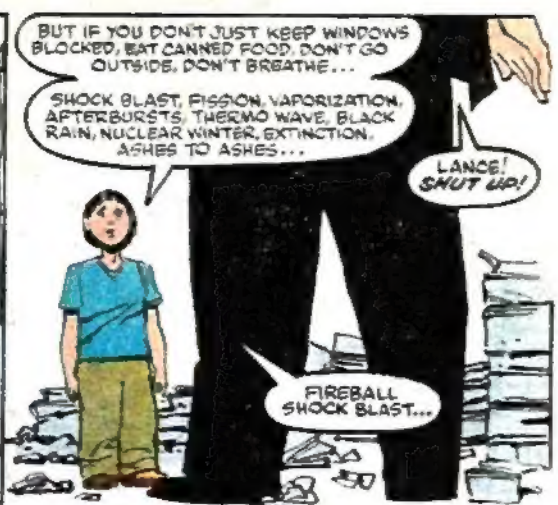




IN THE EVENT OF A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST, STAY INSIDE, BEHIND THICK WALLS, UNDER DIRT IF POSSIBLE...

IF YOU PUKE OR YOUR HAIR FALLS OUT YOU GOT THE RADIATION SICKNESS...

LANCE...?



BUT IF YOU DON'T JUST KEEP WINDOWS BLOCKED, EAT CANNED FOOD, DON'T GO OUTSIDE, DON'T BREATHE...

SHOCK BLAST, FISSION, VAPORIZATION, AFTERBURSTS, THERMO WAVE, BLACK RAIN, NUCLEAR WINTER, EXTINCTION, ASHES TO ASHES...

LANCE! SHUT UP!

FIREBALL SHOCK BLAST...



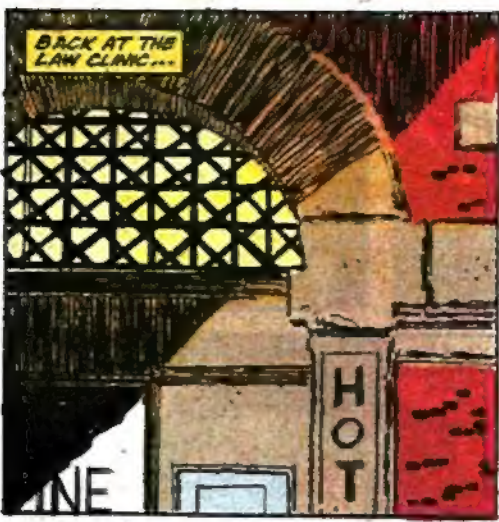
SHHHH... SSSHHH!! EASY...

COME ON, KID, THE WORLD AIN'T GONNA BLOW UP, I'M NOT GONNA BLOW UP, I'LL STAY HERE TONIGHT...

MUTUAL ASSURED DESTRUCTION...

SHHH... I'LL STAY WITH YOU, WE'LL HAVE A GOOD TIME, JUST BE QUIET, PLEASE BE QUIET...

FISSION... FUSION...



BACK AT THE LAW CLINIC...



MR. MURDOCK?

YES?

I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU...



YOU HAVE BEEN PRACTICING LAW WITHOUT A LICENSE.

THIS IS AN INJUNCTION TO STOP THE OPERATION OF THIS ILLEGAL CLINIC...

AND A SUMMONS FOR YOU TO APPEAR BEFORE THE LAW BOARD AND ANSWER FOR YOUR CRIMES.

TO BE CONTINUED



# DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: editor — MARC SIRY: assistant editor

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Sirs,

I've just recently returned to the world of comic books. I left because the stories were too unrealistic, the plots all the same, and the heroes one-dimensional.

What brought me back were the many changes comic book companies allowed their comic book characters to undergo, challenging the clichés and sacrosanct traditions of the past twenty-five to fifty years.

Jim Owsley consistently writes stories that feature a cast of characters that you really care about. Ann Nocenti's elegance with the language and her unique turn of phrase is extremely refreshing. Her use of symbolism and vivid imagery further pedestrian "cope and robbers" story lines in which x number of panels need to be devoted to a fatigued and y pages to a car crash. Her run on the Daredevil series was greatly enjoyed and appreciated, but Jim Owsley was equal to the task of writing a story that expressed the many dimensions of his characters with only the simplest of dialogue.

Case in point: Nigel Townes is not a hero in the sense that he has any extraordinary powers. Like most of us, he's suffered setbacks and has made some mistakes, but his heroism lies in the fact that he "keeps on keeping on."

Chance, "the new guy on the block" is revealed to be not just another "super-villain" — (who ever thought of that corny tag anyway?) In his decision to give back the committee's advance, we see immediately that he's just a bit different; he has a professional pride. He is "not a thug." Despite his career as a mercenary, he has the particular charm of a gambler that, when combined with his professional attitude and his respect for those in trouble who are fighting the odds, make him a character of many levels.

Good work, fellas. Y gracias.

Anthony Suarez

c/o Pizarro

80 West 104th St., Apt 1-D

New York, NY 10025

Welcome back, Anthony! We'll do our best to keep you with us. hang on, because you are in for the ride of your life with Mighty Marvel!!

Dear Ralph,

Thank you very much for a nice light Daredevil story in DD #248. Mostly I was glad to see Chance appear, as he has always intrigued me as a villain. He is very unusual. Most "Super-Villains" in their "secret identity" are selfish and cruel, unlike Chance. He actually has me liking him because of his unselfishness. I keep asking myself, "anyone who helps a friend during a crucial time by giving him a thousand bucks couldn't possibly be a villain, could he?" But I always get the same answer — yes.

It astonishes me how mean and uncaring he becomes when he puts the "Chance" costume on, totally unlike Mr. Powell. Nevertheless, I enjoyed his fight with

Daredevil. And I'm honestly glad DD didn't capture Chance. To me he is such a likable villain that I would hate to see him rot in prison.

I have been curious lately as to why you haven't had letter columns. I always thought that the letter column was particularly enjoyable to read. It's great to read other people's opinions of particular issues. This has been lacking in DAREDEVIL. Is it because you don't receive enough mail? You should be getting tons! I myself am a regular writer and I'm sure other people are as well. So, guys, let's see more of Devil's Advocate!

Thank you for a great issue!

Bill Climer

3330 Richwood-La Rue Rd.

La Rue, OH 43332

It's true, Chance is offbeat. With a name like Chance though, what would you expect? I have to tell you the truth, Bill. Letter columns sometimes don't appear because Ralph's dog eats them some months. Well ... actually it's because sometimes we have a story so good that it bursts out of the typical 22 page format and needs that extra page for story. And that, my friend, is why you buy the book. But this month we have a letters page and you are on it! Go ahead, take a bow.

Dear Ralph,

I almost passed on "Bad Guy." The art looked to be Kirby-imitative, with a flatness that made the over-dramatic qualities look silly, instead of exciting. Chance seemed, at least on the cover, to be a minor league Bull's-eye. Who wrote this issue, I wondered? Jim Owsley? Well, I can afford to give it a shot. And I'm glad I did.

This story has character! DAREDEVIL has evolved into a perfect combination of costumed melodrama and gritty realism, with its hero doing his part in the plot, but the spotlight reserved for a troubled everyman like Nigel. (The Everyman with the little "e" represents all of us at our weakest, just before we decide to be strong.) As for Chance, I still don't know. Maybe minor league super-villains are appropriate for this book, with its neighborhood feel, and its little human dramas. DD's "You can tell I'm a collage graduate" was worth the laugh.

Probably the most exciting moment of the issue was Daredevil's very human puzzling. Is there some sick part of him that needs to create a "Bad Guy" where one may or may not exist?

In the spirit of illuminating digression, I'd like to close this letter with a philosophical cross-reference that "Bad Guy" brought to mind. Perhaps it will place my vague comments on some sort of solid ground. The fourth century's greatest theological thinker, St. Augustine, made himself unpopular by rebelling against the Manichean Doctrine which preached: "It is not we who sin, but some other nature that sins within us." Most

comic book stories operate on similar oversimplified ground rules, with evil either personified, or some unknown thing outside of us, like water or air. Of course there is a whole history of popular entertainment limited by this kind of thinking, and White Hets Vs. Black Hets will probably never die. But fiction is much more satisfying when it echoes Augustine's concept that I've borrowed from book three of his CONFESIONS: "Evil is nothing but the removal of good until finally no good remains."

Keep thinking and I'll keep reading. This kind of story has the potential to top the Kingpin saga.

David Quinn Bressee

824 E. 17th St.

Brooklyn, NY 11230

Whoa! Some very astute comments there David. I see that you are well read, which is to be commended. We would like to remind our readers to read as many different kinds of things as you can. Comics are great, but you'll enjoy them much more if you read some classic literature and non-fiction. And it doesn't hurt to learn something new. Nuff said!

Dear Devil Makers,

Last night at about 3 a.m. a small spacecraft the size of a briefcase flew out of the sky and landed in my back yard. I picked it up and took it up to my room. I sat there for about ten minutes. Then the top opened up! On the underside of the lid was a picture of Daredevil. (Aliens are intelligent.) A small being that resembled a human came out. He held a little flag that read "DAREDEVIL #1." He told me how the inhabitants of his world always thought of the earth as being filled with unintelligent life, until he read DAREDEVIL. I let him read all of the other Marvel titles. He was impressed, but still preferred DAREDEVIL. Before I could stop him he stole my collection of 115 DAREDEVILs and ran into his little ship and flew out the window ... Now I'll have to replace them.

John Jenkins

1224 Greystone Ave.

Richmond, VA 23224

Aliens sighted in Richmond, Virginia — film at eleven. John, we believe your story, but just how does a tiny alien carry 115 comic books; and more importantly: fit them into a spacecraft the size of a briefcase? Hmmm?

Glad everyone enjoyed "Bad Guy." Now hang on to your hats as next issue new regular penciler, the one and only JOHN ROMITA JR., joins the already astounding team of ANN NOCENTI and AL WILLIAMSON for more great stories to knock your socks off! Oh, and let's not forget RIDICULOUS RALPH at the editing helm. But then again, since his dog eats letter columns ... maybe we'd better forget Ralph. Sorry Ralph.



**B  
E  
A  
S  
T  
C  
H  
A  
R  
M  
I  
N  
G**

Potentially per-  
veying a plethora  
of party, prattled  
pictures to my peerless pal!

**OCD**

**is where it's at!**  
Queries? Requests? Then visit  
[ocd.conforums.com](http://ocd.conforums.com)

*Pledged to scan all series great and small...*